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ORGAN OF THE CONFEDERATED SPANISH SOCIETIES OF THE UNITED STATES

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Do Your Good Deed
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Regime Adds 2 More Crimes To Its Infamous Record

MADRID.—On February 23, 1963, Manuel Moreno Barranco, a 27-year old Spanish poet and writer was murdered in Jerez de la Frontera's prison. After having been subjected to untold tortures, he was thrown to the ground from one of the highest galleries. He died a few hours later. Jerez is the center of the sherry country. In Southwestern Spain, where more than 30,000 vineyard laborers declared and won a strike in mid-April of this year.

Manuel Moreno Barranco belonged to the post-war generation, the generation who is now waking up to the realities of the dictatorship and revolting against its oppression and injustice. He was the author of, among other books, "Arcadia Feliz," now being published in Mexico by Editoriales Nuevas Generaciones. Anti-totalitarian and a conscientious democrat, Moreno Barranco was not affiliated with any political party. He went to France in 1959, where he got in touch with the anti-Franco forces, returning to Spain in November 1962. On January 27, 1963, he was detained by the police and a search of his home was made by the authorities. No specific reason was given for either the detention or the search. Nothing was found to accuse him and he was set free, to be detained again on February 13. The cause of his imprisonment was apparently some poems which he had written for an art group in Jerez criticizing the dictatorship, and which fell into the hands of the police. On February 21 his mother visited him in the prison, finding him in good spirits; on the 22nd, his relatives were not permitted to visit him; on the 23rd, his parents were advised by the police that their son had tried to commit suicide and that he was hospitalized, in a grave condition. Again, his family was prevented from visiting him at the hospital. Trustworthy witnesses affirm that just a few days before Moreno Barranco was assassinated a police officer said: "... that heretic can commend himself to God, as this time no one can save him."

The family's efforts in protest against the regime's hostile action were of no avail; those who committed the crime will go unpunished.

The other case is the execution of Julian Grimau, one of the leaders of the Spanish Communist party. After a summary trial by a martial court, he was condemned to death on April 18 and hastily executed two days later in Madrid despite numerous pleas for mercy mainly from the Communist camp and organizations, but also from such outstanding personalities as French cardinals Grelier and Pelin, and Belgium's queen mother. The court's grounds for the death penalty were "continuous military revolt since 1936" and alleged crimes committed during the civil war. Thus, Franco's refusal to commute the death penalty for a life prison term means that for the dictator and the forces he represents, the civil war has not yet come to an end. It also implies that Spain is still being ruled as if a state of civil war would exist, with all the hate and injustice that this involves, and that the Spaniards have yet to overcome the consequences of a terrible civil strife, 24 years after it finished, due to the blindness and self-glorification of a tyrant.

While Grimau's case could give rise to controversy due to his Communist beliefs and the criminal nature of his actions during the civil war, the murder of Moreno Barranco cannot give rise to any; it is clearly and unmistakably an horrendous crime. We do protest against the shooting of Grimau because, as the Italian Socialist leader Pietro Nenni said: "Nobody has a right to keep open until 1963 the records of a trial started in 1936, without assuring all possible legal guarantees; and still less those who brought about the Spanish civil war in 1936, covering themselves with blood and shame." But we protest even more

Committee for Aid to Spanish Refugees Celebrates Tenth Year

In its tenth annual report, just released, Spanish Refugee Aid thanks its contributors for the \$100,000 which enabled it to help many of the 100,000 Spaniards exiled in France since the defeat to the Spanish Republic twenty-four years ago. Dwight Macdonald, vice-chairman, quotes Julio Just, Minister of the Interior of the Spanish Republican Government in Exile: "Contrary to what people think, the situation of the refugees gets more difficult every day. The reasons are clear: old age, chronic illnesses brought on by wars and exile, no savings and the physical impossibility of working. In addition the recent rapprochement between Paris and Madrid has added to their difficulties."

Since its founding in 1953, Spanish Refugee Aid has raised over \$648,000 for these refugees, giving cash, used clothing, work tools, artificial limbs, sewing machines, scholarships. The Committee notes the success of its

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vigorously against the inhuman murder of Moreno Barranco and the silence of the democratic press in this instance. While Russia and the Spanish Communists let their voices be heard—taking at the same time advantage of Grimau's death for their own propagandistic purposes—not a single voice has been raised against the crime perpetrated in the person of a young idealistic Spanish poet, not even in the name of justice. This is indeed a sorrowful situation and a sad disappointment for those of us here who still believe in justice and democracy. Correspondent.

Iberian Liberation Council's Letter to Kennedy

Because of the forced temporary suspension of our newspaper, we have been unable to publish until now a letter which the Iberian Liberation Council sent to U. S. Ambassadors in Madrid and Paris with the request that it be forwarded to President Kennedy. Textually it reads as follows:

"At this moment, when the future of liberty and democracy in Spain are at stake, negotiations are again being carried out with representatives of General Franco's Fascistic regime for the renewal of bilateral agreements for military assistance and for the establishment of American air and naval bases in our territory.

"The Iberian Liberation Council, interpreting the unanimous opinion of our people, wish to advise you and the whole world now strongly it repudiates the impudent intervention and backing of the dictatorship by American capitalism and your Administration.

"We cannot forget, and you should bear it in mind, that all the military support, which the Francoist regime has received during the years the previous agreement was in force, has only served for strengthening the oppressive corps of the regime itself, which year after year have been engaged in brutally repressing all movements towards recovering of freedom for the exploited Spanish workers and in subduing all attempts by our people to reinstate democratic liberties.

"The surrender of the military bases requested by the American Government under the pretext of the defense of the 'free world's' liberty, by an illegitimate regime, is a tragic mockery in view of the complete lack of liberty Spaniards themselves are enduring.

"The economic assistance furnished by your Administration, and by previous Administrations, to the Spanish dictator, has only served to solve the economic crisis created by the dictator's regime itself. Due to the shameful enrichment and corruption if its ruling classes and to the unbearable burden which its repressive apparatus entails, no benefit whatsoever has derived from said assistance for the Spanish people, forced to emigrate and works as cheap labor in foreign countries.

"Your cordial and close relations with Europe's last bulwark of Fascism and Nazism are an undeserved affront to the millions (many thousands of American youths among them) who died fighting for the liberty of Europe and the world in World War II.

"The Spanish people, against all kinds of totalitarian oppression, as shown throughout Spain's history, does not want to compromise its independence to any of the great powers who are at present struggling for world leadership, and stands firm in its decision to fight for genuine liberty and mutual respect among all men and peoples of the earth.

"We do not doubt that agreement with Franco's regime will again be ratified by you and your administration. However, you should bear in mind that you will thereby deserve the full repudiation of a people willing to fight and die for the cause of liberty.

"Franco's friends, regardless of how democratic they believe themselves to be, will always be enemies of the genuine Spanish democrats who through the CNT-UGT-STV Labor Union Alliance and other such organizations will in due time, reinstate liberty in Spain."

"Somewhere in Spain, April 9, 1963."

Bleak Future for Spain After a generation of rule by "anarchy"

In a report datelined in Madrid, the correspondent of the Newspaper Enterprise Assn., Ward Cannel, says among other things that, despite his 70 years, the Spanish dictator has not yet made any real provision for a political successor, while the moves he has made leave the future bleak if not bloody. Among those moves, the correspondent mentions these:

"The appointment, for the first time in his 25-year ironfisted rule, of an assistant dictator—Gen. Augustin Muñoz Grandes, a man sometimes described as being 'five minutes younger than Franco and not nearly as healthy.'"

"Public cordiality toward the Bourbon pretender to the vacant throne—Don Juan Carlos. Monarchy would be acceptable to Spain's tight, underground Com-

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Ambassador declared persona non-grata

Montevideo (OPE). At a meeting held by the City Council of Montevideo, a resolution was approved whereby the Spanish Ambassador in Uruguay, Javier Conde Garcia, was held to be persona non-grata. Said resolution condemns the note sent by the Spanish diplomat protesting against a ceremony honoring the Spanish Republic.

Labor— A Quasi-Legitimate Institution

When labor is forced to resort to the strike weapon in Spain, the repercussions are severe—frequently fatal. Participants, who are allegedly inciting an uprising of anything left of fascism, are subject to the most rigorous trials in a military tribunal, and rarely, if ever, escape unscathed. The arms in Spain is naturally no more qualified to arbitrate a labor dispute than it is in this country, regardless of the political affiliations of the workers. Participation in a strike in Spain remains a criminal offense, and as long as this holds true, it will serve as a revolutionary, rather than evolutionary tactic to improve the abhorrent conditions to which the workers are now subject.

Similar to the emancipation of the Africans in Angola and Mozambique, the emancipation of the Spanish worker is still in its embryonic state and will remain so until sanctioned by the law. As the negroes in this country have sought methods of peaceful agitation to bring about the more rapid process of complete integration, so have the workers under the yoke of Francoism sought more evolutionary means to bring to an end the travesty of industrial relations that exists in Spain. They have embodied the principle of the "slowdown" and are gradually replacing the strike with this method. A slowdown in production has several advantages in Spain over the strike as a means of improving labor conditions. Principally, of course, is the fact that this tolerated by the law and thus does not automatically place the workers in a defensive position. On the contrary, under such circumstances, they are usually in control of the situation. Another advantage is that production slowdowns do attract the government's attention while at the same time, by their very nature, prevent the government from taking any punitive measures against the workers. For example, it has recently been reported that after a series of production slowdowns in the coal-

fields of Leon, a new collective agreement resulted which instituted improved working conditions. It has also been noted in recent agreements, although unpublished, that workers are to receive full pay for periods during which they slowed production.

And of course, not to be excluded, is the matter of public support. In a country such as Spain, where public avowal of anything against the regime is an act of conspiracy, outward support for men on strike is an impossibility. However, if the people are made aware of the worker's every move, and if they can rally their support behind them, then their accomplishment will know no bounds.

We ought not to lose sight, however, of the underlying cause of labor unrest in Spain. Assuredly, the workers are asking for, and deserve, higher wages and improved working conditions, but can their goals be achieved through the voice of state-controlled labor unions? Since the destruction of this quasi-legitimate representative of labor would require far greater support than it has today, the workers must be urged to carry on with greatest effort all other peaceful means of agitation, such as the slowdown. But eventually, they too will be replaced.

Correspondent.

News from Spain

OVIEDO.—Coal miners, deported from Northern Spain following the extensive strike movement in the Spring of 1962, may be allowed to return to their homes in the near future.

Figures as to the exact number of workers exiled vary from 110 to 180, or perhaps higher. Most of the deportees were picked up by the police after the strike affecting 180,000 workers had ended. They were sent to distant parts of the country. Some were able to find jobs, others not. A few were able to arrange for their families to join them. Later they were permitted to go anywhere in Spain, except Asturias. Many of them are now in Leon, a province adjoining Asturias, waiting for permission to return home.

MADRID.—Work slowdowns in industry continue to be reported from various parts in Spain. Apparently, the workers are resorting to these tactics rather than to strikes, to press their demands. The Labor Ministry denied reports that strikes had taken place in at least seven plants in Northern Spain; however, denial of actual occurrences is a constant practice of the Francoist authorities.

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THREE FRENCH ANARCHISTS TO BE JUDGED SHORTLY

Madrid.—Well informed sources report that the three young Frenchmen who were detained at the beginning of May for their "anarchist" activities will be judged in Madrid in the first week of June by a military court. Prison terms ranging from 15 to 30 years will be asked for them. A military attorney will defend the accused. The defendants are Alain Pacunia, accused of having placed an explosive device in the Spanish vessel "Ciudad de Ibiza," at the port of Barcelona; Guy Bateau, detained when he tried to place a bomb in the U.S. Embassy in Madrid, and Bernard Feiry, also accused of placing a bomb in the offices of a Spanish airline.

A release by the Spanish Ministry of Information stated that the three young men were acting following instructions of the French Anarchist and the Young Iberian Libertarian Federations.

Dictators hanged in effigy

Copenhagen.—Three dummies representing Franco, Salazar and the South African premier were found hanging from trees in front of the Danish Parliament.

Each dummy had a card with the name of the person it represented.

FALANGE'S RADICALS SCORE CAPITALISTS

Madrid.—Left-wing Falangists are adopting a more radical position as time goes by. During the first meeting organized by former members of the Falange's Youth, which brought more than 2,000 persons to the Maria Guerrero theater in Madrid, not only were the present Falange's leaders criticized but also the very structure of Franco's regime which, according to the speakers, is in the hands of Spain's capitalist oligarchy.

The three speakers who took part in the meeting—Ledesma, Asensio and Cantarero—essentially said: "The revolution which we intend to carry out will not be possible as long as the Regime continues to protect the Falange and our leaders utilize the State Labor Unions as a springboard for their political careers. Once the Regime ceases to protect us, it will be easy for us to convince the masses."

They pointed out the tremendous social injustice prevailing in Spain and said that "all the vain promises of the Regime are worth nothing as long as the labor unions cannot be led by authentic representatives of the workers."

Mr. Cantarero said, "If we are to remain in the Falange's movement (Spain's only political party,

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